The demand was put to vote and carried.

The grant was made.

CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT.

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant not exceeding Rs. 10,5. 6 for the reorganisation of the Co-operative Department.

Sir, the staff of this department has long been utterly inadequate. That difficulty has been felt by successive Registrars and they have made clear mention of that fact in their Annual Reports. This has also been recognised by the Travancore Co-operative Enquiry Committee.

Sir, the mention of this committee irresistably reminds me of that great Servant of India who guided and regulated the deliberations and recommendations of that committee with, I believe, conspicuous success. The Report of the Travancore Co-operative Enquiry Committee was Mr. Devadhar's last public work. Let us, Sir, with the rest of India, mourn the loss of that great self-less worker who ceaselessly toiled, for several decades, for the social and economic up-lift of the masses in India.

Sir, I was referring to the Report of the Co-operative Enquiry Committee to remind the House of the fact that that committee has made elaborate and detailed recommendations for the reorganisation of the department. The recommendations of the committee, when implemented, will cost a little over Rs. 50,000. The committee was conscious of this heavy expenditure, involved in their proposal as also of the financial stringency which the Government are now confronted with. They therefore suggested that the proposal might be spread over a period of three years, the reorganisation being given effect to in yearly instalments.

Mr. K. Madhavan Pillai : On a point of order, Sir. The Chair has ruled that, under supplementary demands, policy should not be discussed. Judging from the trend of the speech now being made, the policy of the department is being discussed, even foreign policy.

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : I am not discussing any policy, Sir, but I am only endeavouring, to point out the need for the reorganisation of the Co-operative Department.

In pursuance of the recommendations of the committee, it is proposed to appoint 2 intermediary, superior, officers between the Co-operative Registrar and the Inspectors of Co-operative Societies. Such intermediary officers are to be designated Assistant Registrars. The proposal is to divide the whole State into two divisions and to place each division in the charge of one of these Assistant Registrars. The proposed scale of pay for these Assistant Registrars is Rs. 150-200; and each one of them will be given a staff of 1 clerk on Rs. 25-40, another on Rs. 20-25, and 2 peons.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. E. P. Varghese: May I know the headquarters of these 2 Assistant Registrars?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: The respective divisions have not yet been definitely allocated. Of course, due consideration will be given, when such division is made, to the distribution of the Co-operative Societies throughout the State.

Mr. Komilezhathu Sankaran: Who is to make the appointments of the clerks in these Assistant Registrars' offices?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: If, under the rules, the appointments fall within the powers of appointment vested with the Co-operative Registrar, he will make the appointments.

Mr. Komilezhathu Sankaran: May I know whether it is within the powers of the Co-operative Registrar to appoint clerks on Rs. 25-40?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: I believe so.

Mr. Komilezhathu Sankaran: May I know whether the proposed Assistant Registrars will be empowered to make the appointments?

President: Every appointment will be made as per the rules governing appointments. This case is not going to be an exception.

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Sir, the main functions of the proposed Assistant Registrars will be to conduct the inspection of societies within their jurisdiction, to exercise control over the work of the Inspectors, to carry out a test audit of a definite percentage of the societies already audited by the Inspectors, to dispose of arbitration cases referred to them, to enquire into cases of misfeasance, misappropriation and other irregularities and at the same time to promote the organisation of special types of societies.

In regard to the Inspectors, Sir, I may submit for the information of the House that there are twenty-seven Inspectors at present. The number of Inspectors has been found by experience to be utterly inadequate and the present proposal is to increase their number by nine. At present these Inspectors are in two grades, a few in Rs. 75 to 100 and a few in Rs. 40 to 70. In the reorganisation, Government propose to have three grades, the first grade on Rs 100-125, in which there will only be two, a second grade on Rs. 75-100 in which there will be five; and the remaining twenty-nine will be in the last grade on Rs. 40-70.

Mr. E. P. Varghese: What is the Chief work of these Inspectors?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Under the Regulation their chief work is to carry on statutory audit. But there are, under the Regulation, other equally important duties, *viz.*, inspection, enquiry, arbitration and liquidation.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. E. P. Varghese : May I know how many societies on an average are audited in a year by an Inspector ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : Sir, to ensure the efficiency of audit anything more than 45 societies will be too much for an Inspector But even with the increase in the number of Inspectors a re-allocation of the jurisdiction of each circle will have to be made so as to ensure that each Inspector does not get more than the adequate number of societies. Each Inspector as at present, will be given a peon on Rs. 9-11. Sir, the total cost on account of these proposals comes to Rs. 10,556 and as it is absolutely essential I request the House to grant this demand.

Mr. J. John Kattakayam : ഈ ഡിമാൻഡിനെ ഞാൻ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു. ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള സംഗതികൾക്കുംക്രുടി സപ്ളിമെൻററി ഗ്രാൻറ് കൊണ്ടുവരരുതു് എന്നല്ലാ ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതു്. ദേവധാർ കമ്മിറ്റിയുടെ റിപ്പോർട്ടിനെപ്പററി പഠിച്ചാലോചന നടത്തിയപ്പോൾ കഠിനമായ ആക്ഷേപങ്ങൾ പുറപ്പെടുവിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അവയെപ്പററിഗാഢമായി ആലോചിച്ചു് വേണ്ട പരിഹാരമാർഗ്ഗം ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിനായി ഈ ഡിമാൻഡുകൊണ്ടുവന്നിരിക്കുന്നതിനാൽ അതു അനുവദിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. ഫീൽഡ് സംഘങ്ങൾ ലിക്വിഡേറ്റ് ചെയ്തു എന്നും അതിലേക്കു രണ്ടോ മൂന്നോ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർമാരെ ഉള്ളു എന്നും പറയുന്നു. ഇത്രവളരെ പരിമിതമായിട്ടുള്ള ആളുകളെക്കൊണ്ടു കാര്യം എങ്ങനെ നടക്കും. ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ തഴക്കവും പഴക്കവുമുള്ള ആളുകളെ അസിസ്റ്റൻറ് രജിസ്ട്രാറന്മാരായി നിയമിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. ഇപ്പോഴുള്ള ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർമാർക്കു പായത്തക്ക പരിചയം ഉണ്ടെന്നു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. അവരെക്കൊണ്ടു് ശരിയായി ജോലിചെയ്യിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ എന്നും സംശയമാണു്.

President : The experience of the present Inspectors has nothing to do with the supplementary demand.

Mr. J. John Kattakayam : എല്ലാവരെക്കൊണ്ടും ശരിയായി ജോലിചെയ്യിക്കണം. അതിലേക്കുവേണ്ടി ഇപ്പോൾ കൊണ്ടുവന്നിരിക്കുന്ന സപ്ളിമെൻററി ഗ്രാൻറിനെ അനുവദിച്ചുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതു് അത്യാവശ്യമാണു്.

President : The motion before the House is that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 10,556 under Co-operative Department for the reorganisation of the department.

The motion was put to vote and carried.

The grant was made.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly